

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

**Please replace the sixth complete paragraph on page 5 with the following amended paragraph:**

9. An active carbon wherein a porous carbon layer comprising ~~hardly graphatizable non-graphitizable~~ carbon is coated on the active carbon as described in 1 above.

**Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 16 and 17 with the following amended paragraph:**

The surface of the active carbon of the present invention may be coated with a porous carbon layer comprising ~~hardly graphatizable non-graphitizable~~ carbon. Coating a porous carbon layer comprising ~~hardly graphatizable non-graphitizable~~ carbon on the surface of the active carbon further enables to control the expansion and contraction of the active carbon when charging and discharging. The coating may be performed on overall of the surface or in an island-structure, however, preferably, about 30 to 70% of the surface is coated.

**Please replace the third complete paragraph on page 17 with the following amended paragraph:**

As a coating material, a ~~hardly graphatizable non-graphitizable~~ carbon material is preferable to be used, which produces so-called hard carbon by heat treatment and enables to control the expansion and contraction of the carbon base material when charging and discharging. A ~~hardly graphatizable non-graphitizable~~ carbon material is, for example, at least one member selected from the group consisting of phenol resin, polyvinyl alcohol resin, furan

resin, cellulose resin, polystyrene resin, polyimide resin, epoxy resin, but not limited thereto specifically.

**Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 22 and 23 with the following amended paragraph:**

When stirring the above-mentioned raw material and polymer to coat the raw material with hardly graphatizable non-graphitizable carbon, the active carbon having fusion-bonded carbon fiber can be produced by mixing the carbon fiber. The thus-produced active carbon having fusion-bonded carbon fiber enables to further control the expansion and contraction at charging and discharging. It is also effective in case it improves the mechanical strength of the polarizable electrode itself.